

About Plat of Survey Documents

Milwaukee County Land Information Office



What is a Plat of Survey?

A Plat of Survey is a map that includes an individual property's legal description, location, boundaries, dimensions of boundary segments, easements, setbacks, and existing structures. It is a legal document prepared by a licensed certified surveyor from survey measurements collected on-site at the property. A Topographical Survey is a type of Plat of Survey that also includes elevation information, along with the location of other ground features such as trees, etc.

Who Needs a Plat of Survey?

These documents may be required to obtain a building permit; to buy, sell, or refinance a property; or to subdivide a parcel. A plat of survey can be useful in settling property line and encroachment disputes between owners of neighboring properties. Title insurance firms use them to verify property boundaries and to identify encroachments, easements, or other issues that may prevent "clear" title transfer in real estate transactions. For instructions on accessing Plat of Survey documents, follow the link under the "Land Records" tab at:

<http://maps.milwaukeecounty.org/>